



# Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

President - Dave Hacker  
Treasurer - Robert Shepherd

Vice President – Kara Kish  
Secretary - Dale Brier

**May 11, 2016 1:00 pm** (Central Time)  
Working Men's Institute  
407 Tavern Street  
New Harmony, IN 47631

## Attendance

### **Voting Members Present:**

Allen County – Gary Hunter (proxy)  
Carroll County – George Mears  
Fountain County – Bob Shepherd  
Gibson County – Bill Knowles  
Huntington County - Dave Hacker  
Knox County – Rama Sobhani  
Miami County – Ken Einselen  
Parke County – Penny Cox  
Posey County – Ralph Weinzapfel  
Sullivan County - John Gettinger  
Tippecanoe County – Jim Andrew  
Vigo County – Kara Kish  
Wabash County – Mike Beauchamp  
Wells County – Doug Sundling  
DNR – Dale Brier (alternate)

### **Non-Voting Members Present:**

none

### **Guests:**

Jim Alsop – Posey County alternate  
Randy Nowaskie – Knox County alternate  
Carrie Parmenter – Posey County SWCD  
Tim Shumaker – Fountain County alternate

### **Voting Members not present:**

Adams County – Sandy Voglewede  
Cass County – Arin Shaver  
Jay County – Doug Inman  
Vermillion County – Larry Southard  
Warren County – Steve Eberly

## Meeting minutes

### **Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda**

President Dave Hacker called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Members and everyone in attendance introduced themselves. Dale Brier announced that Ron Zartman had given his proxy to Gary Hunter. There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

### **Review and Approval of March 2, 2016 Minutes**

John Gettinger motioned to approve the minutes as written, Jim Andrew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Comments from Visitors or Guests**

None.

### **Finance Report (Dale Brier)**

Dale Brier handed out a copy of the financial report through April 2016 (see attached). Low crude oil prices continue to be the source of decreased revenue for the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund; it is less than \$94,000 for this fiscal year. We predict only about another \$15,000

in revenue by the end of the July. This will be less than half of the revenue that was collected last year. John Gettinger asked about the grant that was not moving forward in Pittsburg, IN and if that money would go back into the account. Brier reported that he sent an inquiry to the Banks of the Wabash President about the official status of the project but has not heard back from him yet.

### **Committee Reports**

**Budget** - Bob Shepherd handed out a report on the status of the budget for the year. While a few items have gone over budget, most others are under and overall the budget is fine. Shepherd also handed out a copy of revenue and expenditures to the donation fund held by Historic Forks of the Wabash. The Abnets were paid for their travel expenses to attend the last meeting and there were memorial donations made to the WRHCC in honor of John Hogstrum. The balance is \$12,583.67.

**Executive** - President Hacker noted that the executive committee had discussed a 25 year anniversary celebration for the WRHCC that will be discussed later in the agenda.

### **Old Business**

**Strategic planning action item updates** – Kara Kish did not have an update to the plan. She reminded all members to work on a list of attractions for their county near the Wabash River. This list will be given to tourism to come up with a master list of destinations along the river route. Kish will send out a reminder email soon and will also include guidelines on what attractions should be included. Ken Einselen will work with INDOT to determine the sign cost and total number needed. This will give the commission a starting point for developing a plan to buy and install signs. Kish would like to have both of these tasks complete by the July meeting.

**Previous Funding Requests** – There were three funding requests from the March meeting; Riverfest in Lafayette, the Sports and Fitness Series in Bluffton, and Pedal, Paddle, and Play in Fort Wayne. All three events had requested \$1000 in sponsorship from the WRHCC. There was a brief review of the requests. Kara Kish motioned to approve all three requests and Jim Andrew seconded. Motion carried. Invoices should be sent to Dale Brier in order to receive the funding.

### **New Business**

#### **New funding requests**

Ralph Weinzapfel introduced Carrie Parmenter with the Posey Co. Soil and Water Conservation District and she requested \$1000 for the Wonderful Wabash Canoe Trip in Posey County on August 13, 2016. The ten mile trip will start at Harmonie State Park and will include educational stops and lunch at the end. She had a flyer for everyone to review. The money would be used for insurance and transportation.

Mike Beauchamp requested \$1000 for the fifth Clean out the Banks event put on by the Wabash River Defenders. This event has previously collected 62 tons of trash over the years. This event will focus on some of the larger items in the Wabash River rather than

small litter or tires. This will require cables and special equipment. The WRHCC has sponsored the event before.

Dave Hacker mentioned that the Splash on the Wabash event in Huntington County was cancelled last year. The sponsorship money from the WRHCC was kept and will be used for their 2016 event; they will not need funding from the WRHCC this year.

**Grant projects updates** – Dave Hacker said the Historic Forks project just received a permit from the DNR Division of Water for construction of the boat ramp portion of the project. Phil Cox said Montezuma has hired an engineering firm to look at pre-cast concrete sections to be used for decking the bridge.

**25<sup>th</sup> anniversary discussion** – President Hacker said that 2016 is the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission. The first meeting took place in December 1991. The executive committee and a few others have discussed having a celebration at the November meeting in Lafayette. There could be a pre-meeting awards celebration and luncheon. Past WRHCC members, spouses, some elected officials and key Wabash River Commission supporters would be invited and recognized. Jim Andrew said he would look into locations for the event and regular meeting, McGraw's Steak Chop & Fish House on the river in Tippecanoe County was discussed. Dale Brier briefly discussed the format of the event; it could be an awards luncheon and possibly something before. It would be done at the same location as the regular meeting. Hacker said the event could even overlap into the regular meeting and that meeting could have a shortened agenda to accommodate it. The team guessed the event could attract around 100 people. Brier has made a list from previous meeting minutes and old membership lists of all appointed members of the WRHCC since 1991. He will send out the list to current members to get current contact information for an invite list. The plan is to have the lunch catered at no cost to the participants and have awards and other items for those that dedicated time to the Commission. John Gettinger motioned to request up to \$2500 from the donations fund held with Historic Forks for food and award costs. Jim Andrew seconded, motion passed.

#### **Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion**

**Other event announcements, festival dates for next year, etc.**

none

#### **Final comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests**

George Mears gave a brief overview of what he had planned for the next meeting in Carroll County; the meeting will be at the New Opera House in Delphi. There will be a pre-meeting tour of the Opera House and lunch in Delphi at a brand new restaurant in downtown Delphi. He is also planning a post-meeting tour of the Freedom Bridge.

Ralph Weinzapfel thanked Connie Weinzapfel and others for setting up all the pre-meeting activities and tours of Historic New Harmony.

President Hacker reminded everyone of their two assignments to accomplish before July; get their tourism attractions to Kish and get updates to the historic list of WRHCC members to Brier.

Brier reminded the group of upcoming meeting dates and locations.

- July 13 in Carroll County
- September 14 in Sullivan County
- November 9 in Tippecanoe County
- January 11, 2017 in Indianapolis

Jim Andrew motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ken Einselen seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

**Next Meeting:** July 13, 2016 at 1:00 pm.  
Delphi Opera House in Carroll County

**48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund**

FY16 as of 04/30/2016

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 93,877.48
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 12,211.66	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$ 874.63	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COntr	\$ 366.33	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 1,367.73	
518105	Anthem CDHP1	\$ 787.27	
518107	Payroll Anthem Trad HDHP	\$ 103.05	
518151	Anthem Trad 2	\$ 357.19	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 18.17	
518796	Payroll Anthem Dental Trad	\$ 23.27	
518798	Payroll Delta Dental Trad	\$ 39.64	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 8.19	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 2.06	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 213.70	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 76.30	
519721	Payroll Health Savings Acct 1	\$ 129.22	
519725	HSA Health Savings Acct 2	\$ 5.69	
541002	Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline	\$ 137.42	
547046	SpOp-Audio Visual	\$ 27.68	
591014	NonRealEstRnt-Meeting Rooms	\$ 47.01	
591024	NonRealEstRnt-Vehicle Rentals	\$ 133.04	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 6,032.08	
595120	InState Travel - Per Diem&Meal	\$ 1,117.35	
595130	InState Travel - Lodging	\$ 1,951.47	
599026	AdmOp-Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 100.00	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 3,000.00	
659410	Postage	\$ 454.04	
659792	Printing Service	\$ 147.35	
750007	Approp Tfr - OUT	\$ 250,000.00	
<b>Total FY16 Expense To Date:</b>		<b>\$ 279,731.54</b>	

Fund Balance:		
	6/30/2015	283,113
FY16 revenues		93,877
FY16 Expenses		279,732
FY16 Encumbrances		0
<b>balance as of 04/30/2016</b>		<b>97,259</b>
DNR payroll	\$	16,584.10
travel costs	\$	9,418.37
sponsorships	\$	3,000.00
operating	\$	729.07
grants	\$	250,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>279,731.54</b>